

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) A hybrid speech encoder, comprising:

- (a) a linear prediction, pitch and, voicing analyzer;
- (b) a parametric encoder coupled to said analyzer; and
- (c) a waveform encoder coupled to said analyzer;
- (d) wherein said parametric encoder encodes strongly-voiced frames and said waveform encoder encodes both unvoiced and weakly-voiced frames including a pitch-prediction filter for weakly-voiced frames.

Claim 2 (original) The encoder of claim 1, wherein:

- (a) said waveform encoder includes a sparse codebook for weakly-voiced frames and a stochastic codebook for unvoiced frames.

Claim 3 (original) A hybrid speech decoder, comprising:

- (a) a linear prediction synthesizer;
- (b) a parametric decoder coupled to said synthesizer; and
- (c) a waveform decoder coupled to said synthesizer;
- (d) wherein said parametric decoder decodes excitations for strongly-voiced frames and said waveform decoder decodes excitations for both unvoiced and weakly-voiced frames including a pitch predictor for weakly-voiced frames.

Claim 4 (original) The decoder of claim 3, wherein:

- (a) said waveform decoder includes a sparse codebook for weakly-voiced frames and a stochastic codebook for unvoiced frames.

Claim 5 (new) The encoder of claim 1, wherein:

(a) said analyzer, said parametric encoder, and said waveform encoder are implemented as programs on a programmable processor

Claim 6 (new) The decoder of claim 3, wherein:

(a) said synthesizer, said parametric decoder, and said waveform decoder are implemented as programs on a programmable processor